

Gordon Primary School News

Headteacher: Mr Jason Taylor

Deputy Head: Mrs Charlie Fabian

Assistant Head / SENDCo: Mrs Hannah Cuesta

Be the best you can be.



WELCOME BACK

As we begin a new school year, we would like to extend a very warm welcome back to all of our returning families and a special hello to those who are joining us for the first time! We hope you and your children had a wonderful summer. The staff would like to thank everyone for the wonderful gifts they received at the end of last term. Gifts are not necessary or expected, but they are very much appreciated. Thank you!

We are very excited to have the children back in school. The staff have been working hard to prepare for their new classes and lots of exciting learning experiences have been planned. Please check the **Diary Dates** section for information about upcoming events and remember to check it each week for updates.

INFORMATION EVENING FOR YEAR 6

We will be holding a **Year 6** Information Meeting on Monday 14th September at 6pm in the Lower Hall. As well as providing guidance on how to apply for secondary school places, we will also talk briefly about SATS and give you some information about next year's School Journey. It is important that **ALL** Year 6 parents and carers attend this meeting. Children do not need to attend.

WELCOME MEETINGS

We will be holding Welcome Meetings for **Years 1 to 5** on Tuesday 8th September. They will take place in classrooms at 3:25pm, 3:45pm and 4:05pm so you can attend meetings for more than one class if necessary.

There will be a meeting for **Reception** on Wednesday 23rd September at 2:30pm.

Next week, we be putting the Autumn term learning information for the year groups on our website. Please visit the "curriculum" section. You will find some general reminders here too.

PUNCTUALITY



Arriving at school on time sets a child up for a successful day. Please remember that we have a "soft start" in place and allow children to arrive between 8:45am and 8:55am. By 8:55am your child must be in their classroom, not walking through the gate. If you arrive at 8:55am your child is late, will receive a late mark and will miss the start of their learning.

Please support us by ensuring your child arrives on time every day. Thank you.

FRIENDS OF THE GORDON (PTA)

The **Annual General Meeting** will take place on **Tuesday 29th September** at **6:30pm**. We will be electing a committee for the coming year, discussing future projects and planning a programme of social and fund-raising events. Everyone is welcome!

Being a member of the committee is a fantastic way to be involved with the school. If you are interested in standing for one of the posts, please see the information below:

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHAIRPERSON

1. To chair the *FoG* meetings on a regular basis.
2. To work within the model constitution.
3. To encourage all members of the school community to support the *FoG*.
4. To assist with the planning of fundraising events.
5. To work in conjunction with school staff.
6. To hold meetings with committee members to forward plan on behalf of the *FoG*.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TREASURER

1. To keep financial accounts on behalf of the *FoG*.
2. To give a financial report at each meeting.
3. To bank monies as and when required.
4. To work within the model constitution.
5. To encourage all members of the school community to support the *FoG*.
6. To assist with planning fundraising events.
7. To work in conjunction with school staff.
8. To attend meetings with committee members to forward plan on behalf of the *FoG*.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY

1. To liaise with the Chair to arrange the *FoG* meetings.
2. To finalise an agenda for each *FoG* meeting with the Chair.
3. To take minutes at *FoG* meetings and distribute them.
4. To work within the model constitution.
5. To encourage all members of the school community to support the *FoG*.
6. To assist with planning fundraising events.
7. To work in conjunction with school staff.
8. To attend meetings with committee members to forward plan on behalf of the *FoG*.

If you would like to support *FoG* but do not feel you can commit to one of the committee roles, we would still love to see you at the meeting. There are lots of ways you can be involved and make a difference to our pupils!

SWIMMING

Weekly swimming lessons for **Year 4** start next week. The lessons will continue until the Spring Term half-term holiday in February 2027.

The children walk to the Eltham Centre where they will have a 45-minute swimming lesson with trained instructors. The children will need **close fitting trunks** (no baggy beach shorts) or a **one-piece costume** (no bikinis), a **swimming hat** and a towel in a **waterproof bag**.

We are asking for a £10 donation towards the cost of swimming which works out at approximately 50p per session. If you are able to support us with this donation, we would be very grateful. You can make your donation via ParentMail. Thank you.

DIARY DATES

September

Sunday 6 th	Big Half Marathon
Tuesday 8 th	Welcome meetings for Years 1 to 5 ~ 3:25pm / 3:45pm / 4:05pm in classrooms
Monday 14 th	Secondary Transfer meeting for Year 6 ~ 6pm / Lower Hall
Tuesday 23 rd	Welcome meeting for Reception ~ 2:30pm / Lower Hall
Thursday 24 th	Flu vaccinations (Reception to Year 6 , Year 4 at a later date)
Tuesday 29 th	FoG Annual General Meeting ~ 6:30pm / Lower Hall

October

Tuesday 13 th	Harvest Festival assembly Years 1 to 3 ~ 2:30pm
Wednesday 14 th	Harvest Festival assembly Years 1 to 3 ~ 9:15am
Thursday 15 th	Phonics / early reading workshop for Reception parents & carers - 9am
Monday 19 th	Open Evening 1 ~ 3:30pm to 7pm
Wednesday 21 st	Open Evening 2 ~ 3:30pm to 6pm
Friday 23 rd	Inset Day - school closed
26 th to 30 th	Half Term holiday - school closed

Please check back each week for updates.

To see this year's term dates, please [click here](#).

LET'S TALK!

This week's "Let's Talk" task is linked to this year's theme for class names:

What is your favourite mythical creature?

What do you like most about it and why?

NO PHONES / SMART WATCHES

Please remember that the children are not allowed to bring phones or smart watches into school. This helps us keep everyone focused, safe and ready to learn. Thank you for your support.



Help us build our Gordon Birthday Box!

We love making sure every child feels seen, valued, and celebrated. A birthday is a wonderful milestone, and we want to ensure that if a child is at school on their special day, they feel a deep sense of belonging and excitement within our school community. To help us celebrate together, we are introducing a brand new 'Birthday Box' when we return in September!

How It Will Work

On their birthday, children will be invited to visit the school office before registration. They will get to choose a special item from the Birthday Box to wear proudly for the rest of the day. At the end of the day, they will return the item to the box so it's ready to bring joy to the next birthday child.

How You Can Help

To get our Birthday Box ready for the new school year, we are kindly asking for donations of small, reusable celebratory items. If you have any spare or would be willing to donate, we would love items such as:

- Birthday sashes
- Birthday badges (clip-on or pin-free preferred)
- Fun birthday hair bands or headbands
- Party hats or crowns

Please drop any donations off at the main office when we return in September. Thank you so much for your continued support in making our school an inclusive and joyful place for all our children!



RULES AND REMINDERS

We would like to share some rules and reminders with you. Please note that rules and policies are reviewed regularly and do sometimes change, so please read through the points below. Thank you for your support.

Children need to wear school uniform every day. This includes black school shoes (and black trainers on PE days). The list of uniform items is available from the office and the school website. Please also remember to label everything.	With the exception of Year 6 children who are developing their independence, we expect all children to be accompanied to and from school. If your Year 6 child walks to or from school without an adult, please inform us in writing.
Children must come to school in their PE uniform on PE days. This includes navy shorts, plain white or navy t-shirt and black trainers. Navy/black track suits can be worn during the winter. No football shirts / strips please.	No jewellery should be worn to school. The only exceptions are stud earrings and watches. Please keep friendship bracelets and plastic wristbands at home. No smart watches please.
PE and swimming are statutory parts of the curriculum. In most cases, if a child is well enough to be in school, they are well enough to participate in these lessons. If you feel your child is not able to take part, please inform the class teacher.	We are a Healthy School and do not give out sweets or cakes on children's birthdays. Stickers, fresh fruit, boxes of raisins, pencils, rubbers or a book dedicated to the class are great alternatives if you wish to mark your child's birthday in school.
Dogs can only come onto school premises if they are carried. If your dog distresses the children, you will be asked to keep it at home.	Please ensure you are not parking on the zigzag lines, on yellow lines, near junctions or across our neighbours' driveways.
If you have a concern about something that has happened in school you need to see the class teacher in the first instance. If you have not been able to resolve the concern at this stage, you should see a member of the Senior Leadership Team - Mr Taylor, Mrs Fabian or Mrs Cuesta.	Please keep us informed of your child's medical needs and allergies . You will need to complete an <i>Administration of Medication</i> form if prescribed medication is needed during the school day. If there are any changes to medical needs, please let us know. Please make sure that your child's medication is in date.
Staff email addresses are available on our website. Please note that staff are very busy and will respond as soon as they can, but we cannot guarantee it will be the same day.	Long hair should be tied back at all times. Headbands and hair clips must be small and plain. Bows must be plain in colour and no larger than your child's palm.
We expect children to complete the home-learning activities we set. To make the best progress, children need to read (or be read to) at home. A few minutes of reading every day makes a huge difference.	If your child is unwell , please let us know as soon as possible. If your child has vomited or had diarrhoea, they can return once they are feeling better. They do not need to be clear of symptoms for 48 hours.
Toys and games , including electronic devices should stay at home. Children get very upset if their belongings are lost or damaged.	Children must not ride bicycles or scooters in the playground. Playground equipment should not be used at the start or end of the day.
Taking photographs and videos of events in school, including assemblies and performances, is not permitted. This is for child protection reasons.	We produce a weekly newsletter . Please ensure that you check it for information every week. We send it out by ParentMail and it is also available on our website

SPONSORED RUN - BIG HALF MARATHON



Eight members of our school community, including staff and parents, are proudly taking on **The Big Half Marathon** on Sunday 6th September to raise funds for **Friends of the Gordon**. This fantastic challenge starts at Tower Bridge and finishes in Greenwich, following much of the first half of the iconic London Marathon route and showcasing some of the city's famous landmarks.

We are incredibly proud of our runners' commitment and determination in taking on this challenge for the benefit of Gordon pupils. If you are able to show your support with a donation, it would be greatly appreciated. Please click [here](#)! Thank you for your generosity!

CHILDREN'S INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

If your child is in **Year 6** and you would like them to walk to and from school without adult supervision, please confirm this in writing by emailing the school office. The children in younger year groups are expected to be accompanied by an adult.

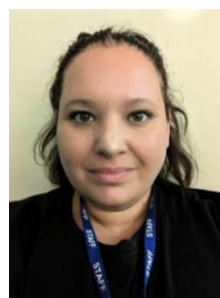
GORDON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN TEAM

If you have a concern regarding a child's well-being, care or safety, including bullying, please contact a member of our Safeguarding Team: Mr Taylor, Mrs Fabian, Mrs Cuesta and Ms Newlove. Additionally, you can call Greenwich Council (020 8921 3172) or the NSPCC (0800 800 5000). In the case of an emergency where you feel a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999.



Mr Taylor - Headteacher

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Mrs Fabian - Deputy Head

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Mrs Cuesta - Assistant Head / SENDCo

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Ms Newlove - Learning Mentor & Wellbeing Practitioner

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Find us online: www.gordonprimary.co.uk

Instagram: [@gordonprimaryschool](https://www.instagram.com/gordonprimaryschool)